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Mar 1987

OPI REPORT

Office of Public Instruction
Ed Argenbright
Superintendent

March 1987

"Distance Education" Expands the Possibilities for Rural Districts

The problem of small teaching staff or limited course offerings in small, rural or isolated districts can be alleviated through distance education, a form of instruction that is explored in a paper by Computer Education Specialist Ann Batey, of the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL), and Educational Consultant Richard N. Cowell.

Distance education is instruction that takes place when the teacher and student cannot meet face-to-face. It can involve a simple correspondence course or--more frequently--a sophisticated technological medium such as electronic mail, audiographic teleconferencing, slow-scan TV, or satellite transmission.

Distance Education: An Overview contains a description of several programs that have greatly expanded the "reach" of rural education and an appendix with useful contact information. The full report is available for $7 prepaid from NWREL Document Reproduction Service, 300 SW Sixth Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204, telephone 800-547-6339.

Bicentennial Writing Contest Deadlines Near

The deadlines for two essay contests on the U.S. Constitution are drawing near.

Students and teachers are reminded that April 15 is the deadline for the National Bicentennial Writing Competition for high school students sponsored by the Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, the American Bar Association and *USA/Today* Gannett Corporation. This contest also has an element for state winners, coordinated by the Office of Public Instruction and the State Bar of Montana. Information and official application forms are available from the National Bicentennial Writing Competition, Box 50184, Washington, D.C. 20004-0184.

The U.S. Department of Education's elementary school essay contest includes a deadline for state judging of April 1. Montana will be allowed to submit eight entries, two in each of four categories: grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8. Essays are to be 250 words in length on the theme, *What the Constitution Means to Me and to Our Country*. For further information contact Ed Eschler, OPI, 444-4433.

Upcoming Satellite Videoconferences Sponsored by Saint Vincent Hospital

Two satellite videoconferences are being offered by Saint Vincent Hospital and Health Center in conjunction with Executives Communications.

The Changing Workforce: Strategies for Future Management will be presented on Wednesday, March 11, 1987. *Visioning: Setting Management Strategy* will be presented on Wednesday, April 1. Both sessions will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Marillac Hall at Saint Vincent Hospital, 1241 N. 30th Street, Billings. The fee for each program is $50, and the deadline for registration is March 6 and March 27, respectively.

For more information contact Roxy Fredrickson, Education Coordinator, Saint Vincent Hospital and Health Center, P.O. Box 35200, Billings 59107-5200.

Parent Guides Available

The National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) has a series of guides to help parents and guardians get their child's education off to the right start and continue to help their child learn. *That First Day of School* helps parents and children deal with the new experience of starting school; *Helping Your Child Learn* gives parents tips on how they can help their child learn at home; *It's 3 O'Clock and It's Time to Help Children on Their Own* addresses the concern of the growing number of children who must be left alone because their parents cannot be at home. These three booklets are available at volume discounts. For more information contact National School Public Relations Association, 1501 Lee Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22209, (703) 528-5840.

Money Saving Idea

Circular No. A-128 from the Office of Management and Budget implements the Single Audit Act. If your district has a single audit, the auditor you hire wants to know the CFDA (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance) number of federal funds you received through the Office of Public Instruction. The following list identifies the CFDA numbers and will save the auditor time thus saving you money.

Source of Funds

Food Distribution (10.550)
School Breakfast Programs (10.553)
National School Lunch Program (10.555)
Special Milk Program for Children (10.556)
Summer Food Service Programs for Children (10.559)
Nutrition Education and Training Programs (10.564)
Adult Education--State Administered Program (84.002)
Bilingual Education (84.003)
Education of Handicapped Children in State Operated or Supported Schools (84.009)
Educationally Deprived Children--Local Education Agencies Chapter 1 (84.010)
Migrant Education--Chapter 1 (84.011)
Neglected and Delinquent Children--Chapter 1 (84.013)
Handicapped Early Childhood Education (84.024)
Deaf-Blind Centers (84.025)
Handicapped State Grants (84.027)
Vocational Education--Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act (84.048)
Vocational Education--Consumer and Homemaking Education--Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act (84.049)
National Diffusion Network (84.073)
Improving School Programs--Chapter 2 (84.151)
Grants for Strengthening the Skills of Teachers and Instruction in Mathematics, Science, Foreign Languages, and Computer Learning (84.164)

Recent legislation was passed that can provide your district with funds from the program entitled Drug Free Schools and Community Act. At present the office does not have a CFDA number for the program.

Does Your School Have an Outstanding Biology Teacher?

Nominations are currently being accepted for the 1987 Outstanding Biology Teacher Award for the state of Montana. The award program, conducted by the National Association of Biology Teachers, is intended to identify and reward excellence in biology teaching by selecting an Outstanding Biology Teacher in each of the 50 states. The program is sponsored by Silver Burdett-Ginn Publishers, who present each award winner with a world-class pair of binoculars. In addition, winners also receive framed certificates, as well as public recognition and professional satisfaction. Award recipients will be invited by NABT to a special luncheon to honor awardees, held in conjunction with NABT's National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio in October 1987.

All biology teachers of grades 7-12 in public or private schools, who teach primarily life sciences, are eligible for nomination. Membership in NABT is not required. Candidates may be renominated in subsequent years. Nominations can be made by colleagues, administrators, students, the teachers themselves, or anyone else competent to judge the candidate's teaching effectiveness, ability, experience, inventiveness, and inherent strength in teaching biology.

The deadline for submission of completed application materials is April 15. Anyone wishing to receive application forms should submit a nominating letter as soon as possible to Craig Kuchel, State OBTA Director, Florence-Carlton School, 5540 Old Highway 93, Florence, MT 59833.

Board of Public Education Date Changes

The March Board of Public Education meeting will be held on March 23 and 24 in Helena. April's meeting will be held in Great Falls on April 27-28.

Calendar

Mar. 15-21--"Ag Week in Montana," Nina Baucus, 458-9468

Mar. 23-24--Board of Public Education meeting, Helena, Claudette Morton, 444-6576

Apr. 27-28--Board of Public Education meeting, Great Falls, Claudette Morton, 444-6576

MISSING CHILDREN INFORMATION

The following is the State Dept. of Justice's most current list of missing Montana children and teenagers (age 17 and under). For details on the Missing Children Program, call Bill Erwin, Dept. of Justice, Helena, 444-3625. (PD=Police Dept.; SO=Sheriff's Office; TP=Tribal Police)

NAME	SEX	RACE	DOB	AGE	HT/WT	HAIR	EYE	STATION
Adams, Cyndine	F	W	061670	16	5'1"/157	BRO	BRO	Laurel PD
Beckman, Jessica Ann	F	W	050874	12	5'0"/75	BRO	BRO	Dept. of Justice
Beckman, Jolene M.	F	W	092675	11	4'7"/60	BLN	BLU	Dept. of Justice
Best, Helen D.	F	W	013172	14	5'8"/130	BLN	BLU	Hardin SO
Doellefeld, Beth Ann	F	W	101076	10	4'7"/70	BLN	BRO	Dept. of Justice
Doellefeld, Jason Tex	M	W	010675	11	5'0"/100	BLN	BLU	Dept. of Justice
Doellefeld, Max Carl	M	W	081178	8	4'3"/55	BLN	BRO	Dept. of Justice
Gerdon, Shawn M.	M	W	031077	9	3'0"/30	BRO	BLU	Dept. of Justice
Ginevicz, Megan	F	W	011278	8	2'8"/25	BLN	GRN	Polson SO
Hope, Alven Glen	M	W	112777	9	4'5"/52	BRO	BLU	Dept. of Justice
Innocci, Barbara	F	W	121170	16	5'4"/143	BRO	BRO	Billings SO
Johnston, Janice	F	W	011171	15	5'3"/118	BLN	xx	Polson SO
Linderman, Staci R.	F	W	011269	17	5'5"/108	BRO	BLU	Yellowstone SO
Stewart, Ramona A. (aka Harrington, Bennett, Connors)	F	W	101679	7	3'9"/45	BLN	BLU	Dept. of Justice
Strutzel, Michael	M	W	120481	5	3'0"/30	BLN	BLU	Butte/Silver Bow

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